

eye of a clerk who has lost her job, let him look in the eye of a steel worker who has lost his job and tell him that outsourcing is a good thing because it makes us more efficient.

Then in the same report, Mr. Mankiw, the President's top economic guru, the top economic adviser, said that we will this year create 200,000 jobs a month. Well, after he said that, even the President's people, including the President, said we did not really mean 200,000 a month, because the first month they fell 199,000 jobs short, and every month they have fallen way, way short of this job creation they promised.

Then the President's economic adviser said, you know, maybe in response to this, and this really shows how out of touch they can get, maybe in response to this we need to reclassify what manufacturing is. Perhaps, because a bottling company is a manufacturing job, you take the syrup in a Pepsi or Coke bottling plant with 200 or 300 employees, and you take the carbonated water and put them together, that is a manufacturing process.

Maybe, they suggest, the President's top economic people, that we should reclassify fast food, I am not making this up, this is in this report, the fast-food restaurants, maybe they should be considered manufacturing. Because you have the hamburger and you chemically treat it, you cook it; you take the cheese and you chemically treat it, you melt it; then you put the bread on, and you create these manufacturing jobs. Then you take the syrup and you push the button so the syrup and the carbonated water mix. This administration actually is thinking about reclassifying those service jobs as manufacturing jobs.

Now, I am not making fun of people working in fast-food restaurants. In fact, if the Bush administration is going to reclassify those as manufacturing jobs, let them pay more than \$7 an hour; and let them give these young men and women, or older men and women in these fast-food restaurants, decent wages and decent benefits, if they are going to call them manufacturing jobs.

Then the last point I wanted to make is in terms of how out of touch this government can get. One of the leading Republicans in this institution, the chairman of the Committee on Rules, recently was complaining that Democrats and others are saying that we have lost manufacturing jobs.

He said, the fact is that you Democrats, you critics, you media people, you economists, you workers who are complaining about lost jobs are simply not looking at the economy right.

Here is what he said. He said there are 430,000 Americans who make their full-time living selling on ebay. This is not reflected in the economy.

So are we going to count garage sales as economic growth? Are they going to pay them health benefits? Is that where my friends want to take the U.S. economy?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SOUDER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FREEDOM OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN IMPORTANT IN WAR ON TERRORISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, late last October I traveled to Iraq with several other Members of Congress, and what I saw was a country in tatters, a country that had experienced little or no infrastructure investment in decades.

But I also saw a people who, despite torture, government-sponsored slaughter and oppression on the scale of Lenin, a people who, despite all this, retained a glimmer of hope. And I thought, is it not amazing? Thirty years of torture, and Saddam and his henchmen could not break the spirit of the Iraqi people. They still had that thirst for freedom and that thirst for opportunity.

Today, watch the news that comes from Iraq. Occasionally look past the newscaster, actually take a look at the hustle and bustle behind the newscaster. You will see marketplaces, traffic jams, people on their way to and from work. That is the free market at work.

President Bush is the focus of an enormous amount of partisan political criticism. There are those, mostly on the other side of the aisle, who believe that simply getting bin Laden would end terrorism. They think we were wrong to go to Iraq, that Saddam could be contained. In short, those opposed to our work in Iraq believe Saddam's regime had no role in terrorism and that our effort will not bear any positive results for America and the world.

What a shortsighted, small view of the world and a basic misunderstanding of terrorism. Terrorism will not be stopped by removing a leader or a command structure. Terrorism is not going to be that easy to tackle.

What is going to make a difference could be this: Iraq has an interim Constitution on schedule and they are moving toward freedom. Iraq's electricity levels are exceeding pre-war capacity. They passed that benchmark last fall. The international community has pledged \$32 billion to improve schools, health care, roads, water and sanitation. The nation now has a stable currency. A free press is growing. Iraqis have access to more diverse, independent sources of news. Hundreds of democratic meetings are taking place all across Iraq. America has captured 45 of the 55 most-wanted members of Hussein's regime. There are

900,000 telephone subscribers and 225,000 wireless subscribers. All of Iraq's 22 universities and 43 technical institutions and colleges are open. And, this may not sound important, but its value is immeasurable, the Iraqi children no longer have to recite "long live leader Saddam Hussein" each morning.

Some still believe all of this is irrelevant to the war on terrorism. Do you think terrorists are worried about what we are doing in Iraq and Afghanistan? Absolutely. Do you think terrorists fear this President? Do they fear America? You bet they do. The terrorists fear America. I do not mean that figuratively. Those who would destroy America, they literally fear this President and the resolve of the American people and our military, because we have not been afraid to take swift, decisive action.

President Bush said America would not tolerate al Qaeda, that we would not tolerate a Middle East that pumped out hatred and vitriol. Our engagements in Afghanistan and Iraq speak volumes to the terror network.

Does our work in Iraq make hostile nations think twice about supporting terrorism? Yes, indeed, it does. Will our effort to bring the Iraqi people into the modern world, into the free marketplace, the community of free nations, make a difference in the long struggle to destroy what breeds terrorism? Absolutely it will.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RECORD NUMBER OF AMERICANS EXHAUSTING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Well, congratulations to the Bush administration. They have set yet another record. This complements their previous record of the largest job loss and the worst job record since Herbert Hoover was President of the United States in the 1920s. But their latest is notable also: 1.1 million jobless workers by the end of this month will have exhausted their regular unemployment benefits without receiving an extension or additional aid. If we go all the way back, we have been keeping data on extended unemployment since 1971, 33 years ago, there have never been so many people who have exhausted unemployment benefits without successfully finding work.

Now the Bush administration and the Republican leaders in Congress are refusing to extend unemployment benefits. Is that because we are in such a